

ABSTRACT

An image forming apparatus is disclosed that includes a data buffer unit that buffers input binary data, the resolution of which is  $2/n$  ( $n$ : an odd integer greater than or equal to 3) times a print resolution, a data transform unit that transforms the input binary data into output multi-level data of the print resolution, and a light beam modulation unit that modulates radiant energy of a light beam in accordance with the output multi-level data.

Accordingly, an image of the print resolution printed by the image forming apparatus based on the input binary data looks as if the resolution of the image is that of the input binary data.